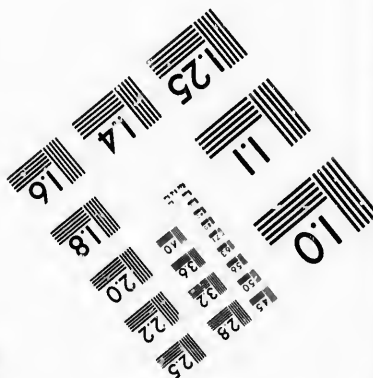
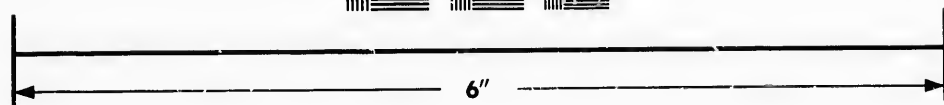
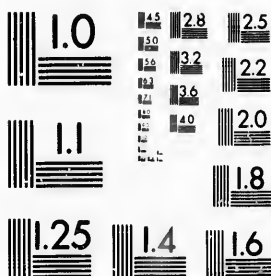


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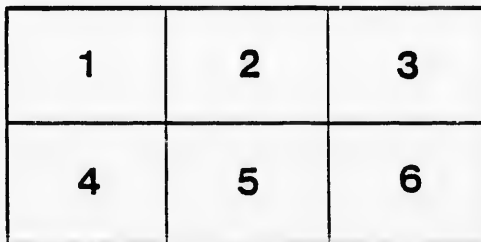
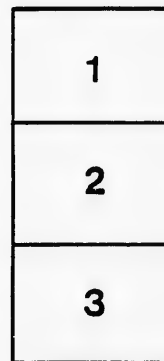
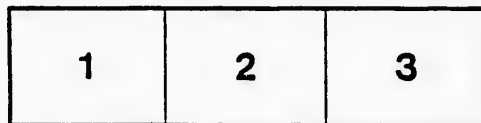
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1886  
No. 84

THE  
LAKESIDE HOME

FOR  
LITTLE CHILDREN.

The Convalescent Branch  
OF  
The Hospital for Sick Children  
ON THE  
Island, Opposite Toronto.



TORONTO, CANADA,  
1886.

## SHORT FORM OF BEQUEST.

---

*I give and bequeath to the Hospital for Sick Children at Toronto  
for the use of The Lakeside Home for Little Children, the sum  
of .....*

---

*Trustees of The Lakeside Home for Little Children.*

W. H. HOWLAND  
A. S. IRVING

J. ROSS ROBERTSON

JOHN J. WITHROW  
DANIEL SPRY

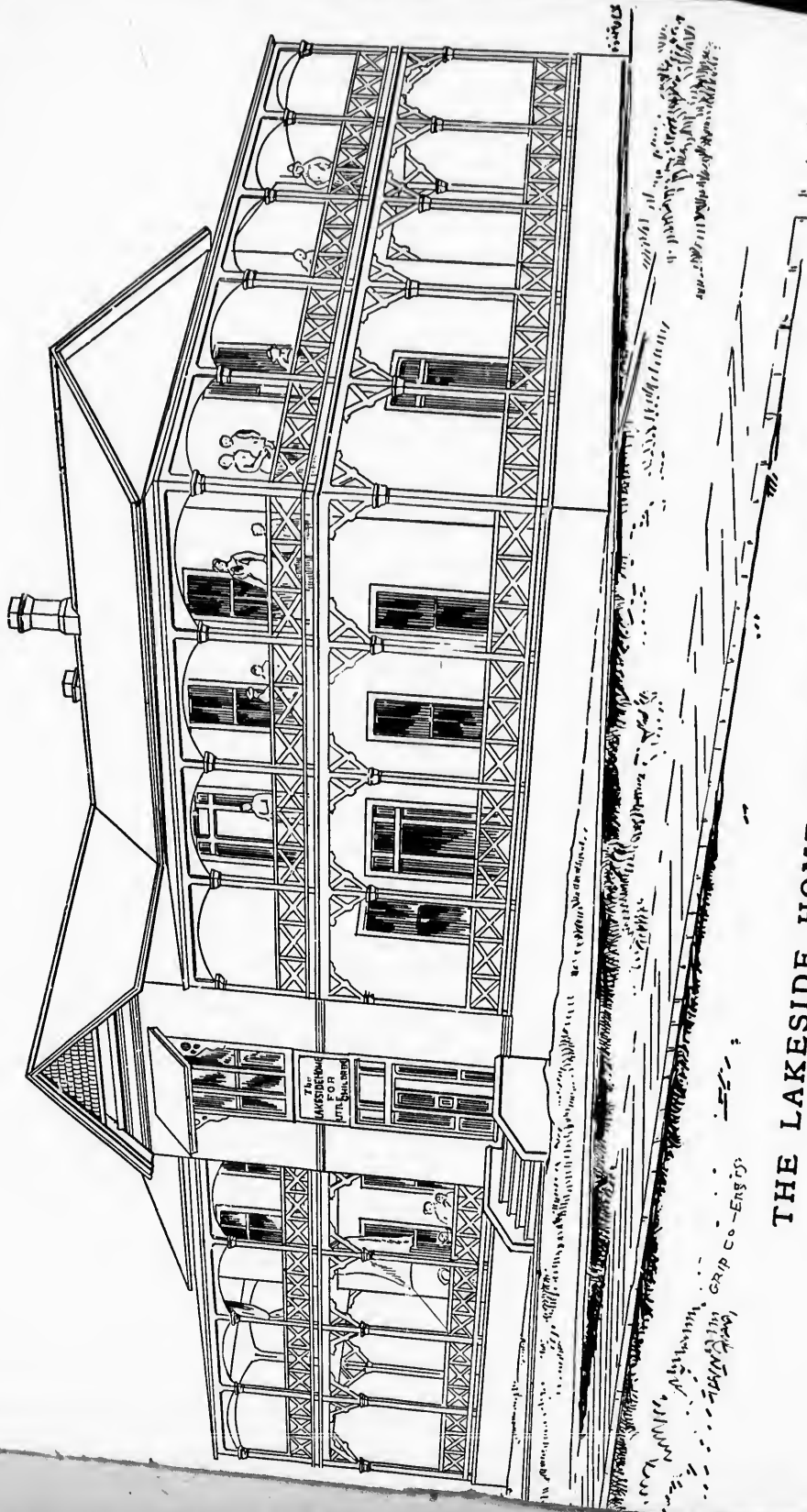
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*The Hospital for Sick Children.*

*President:*  
MRS. S. F. McMASTER

*Secretary:*  
MISS HARVIE





THE LAKESIDE HOME FOR LITTLE CHILDREN.

The Grip Co - Eng



THE  
LAKESIDE HOME  
FOR LITTLE CHILDREN.

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THE CONVALESCENT BRANCH OF  
THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN,

ON THE ISLAND, OPPOSITE TORONTO.

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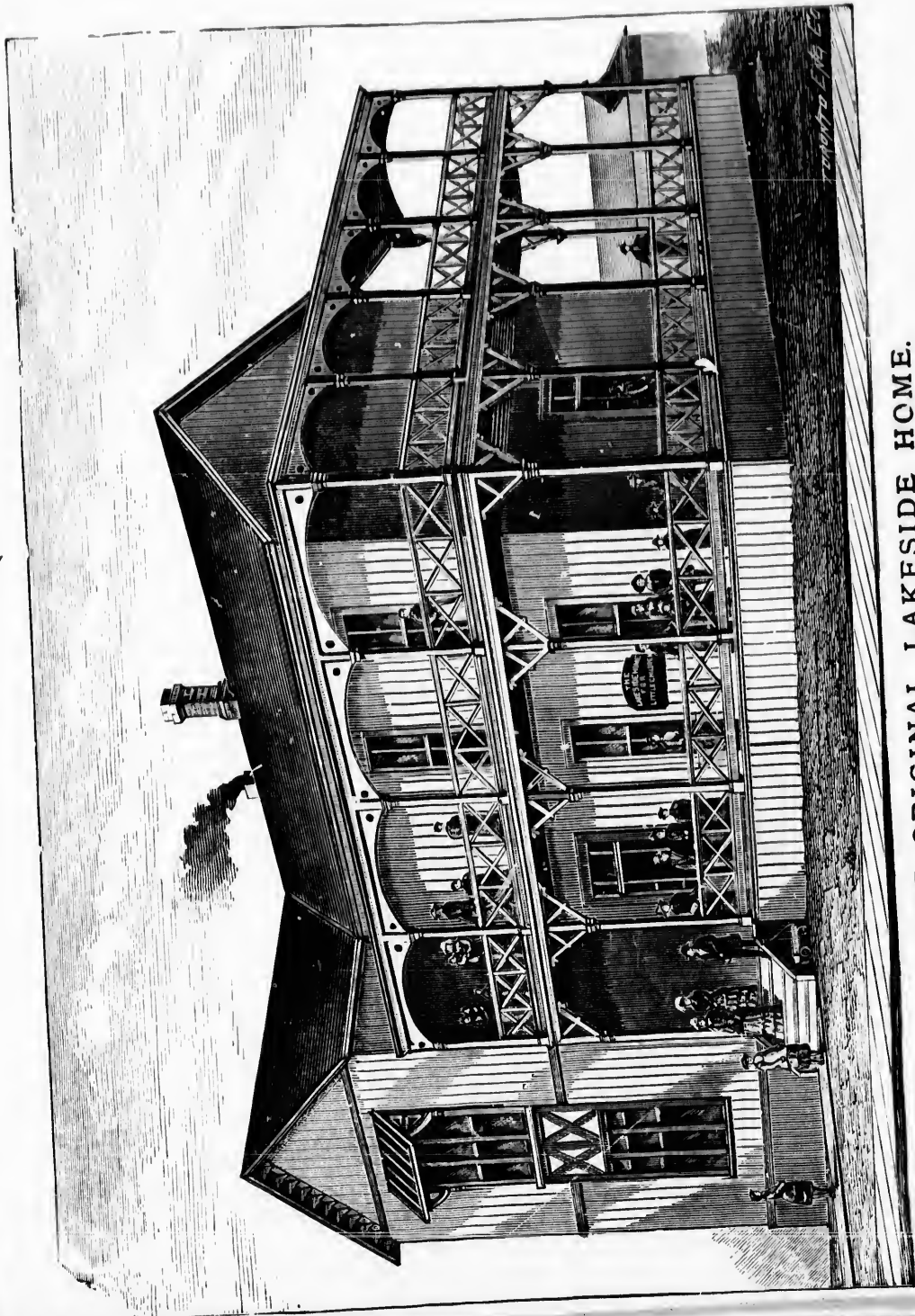
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1886.

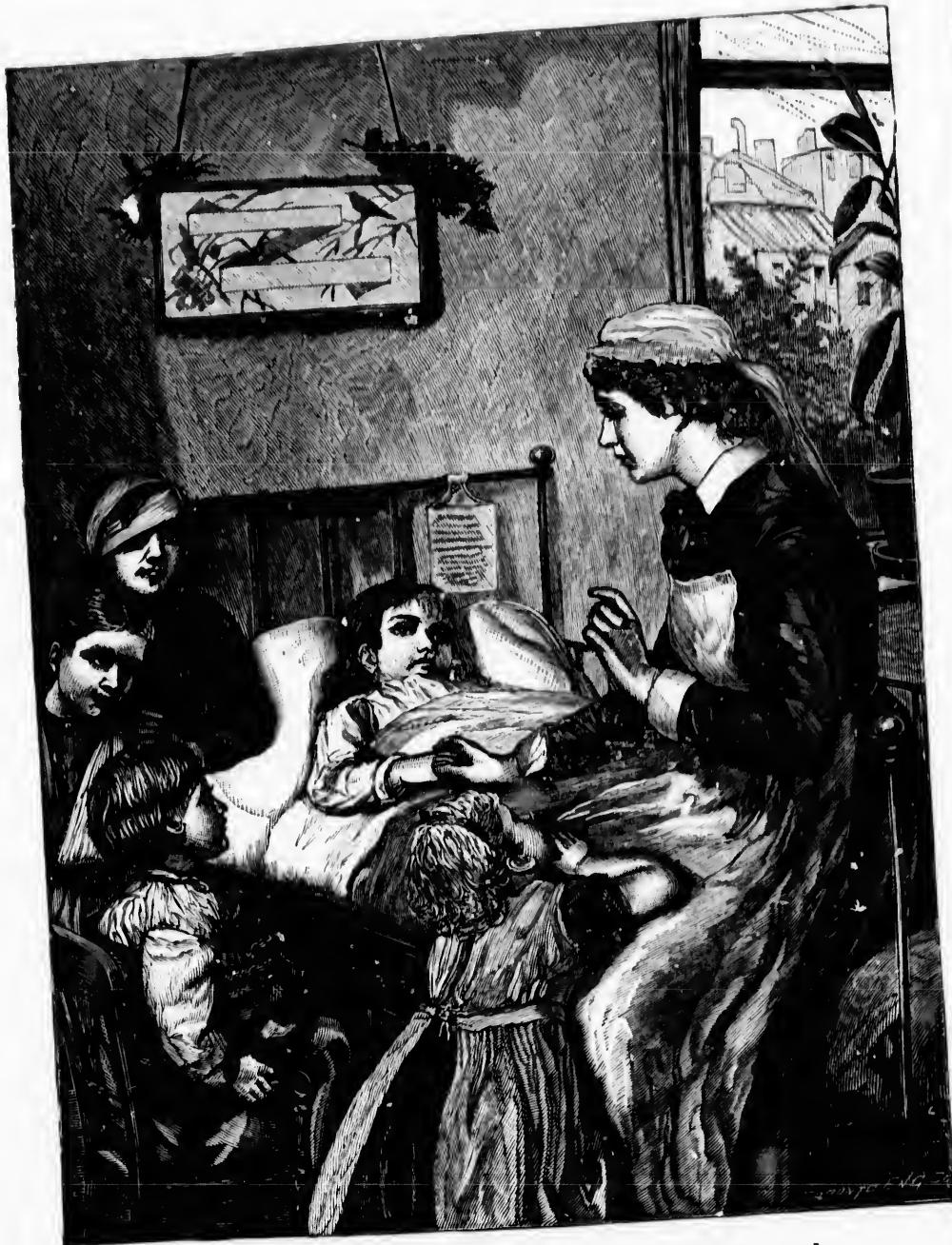
THE LAKESIDE HOME FOR LITTLE CHILDREN.

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THE ORIGINAL LAKESIDE HOME.



A COT AT THE LAKESIDE. |

# THE LAKESIDE HOME FOR LITTLE CHILDREN

## THE PRAYER FOR AN ISLAND HOME

The eyes of the little invalid who looked out from the upper windows of the Hospital for Sick Children in the sunny days of the summer, before the pilgrimages to the lake shore, were refreshed only by a scurry over acres of street thick with houses, and brightened at weary intervals by the cool green of the tree tops that shoot out above the forest of sooty chimneys. A site at the head of Elizabeth street is not an ideal location for a children's summer retreat. Breezes that carry a pleasant chill to the lounge on the water front are tepid before they brush lazily through the windows into the wards where the sick children rest. The trees in the avenue and glimpses of green in the foliage of the private grounds beyond are all of nature's genial traits that the outlook yields to the gaze. When with the darkness sleep comes to still the pains that rack the tiny forms in the cots, the jarring noises of the sultry night and the brassy jangle of the street car bells trouble the slumbers of the children.

For many of the invalids the doctors recommended "plenty of fresh air" as the best tonic. The crowded quarter in which the hospital stands made removal to the Island the only plan of giving that help on to health that life, the sunshine and fresh, free air of summer afford. The thought of the glow that breezes from the cool depths of Ontario would bring to the wan faces of children worn by the heat of the city stirred Mrs. S. F. McMaster and the ladies who aid her into earnest striving after an Island home for the little ones. The pressing need for a building was brought out in the seventh annual report, printed in 1883:—"One great defect of our present hospital is the want of room for convalescents. Returning vigour means a certain amount of noisy play, and so glad are we to see the weak ones restored again that it is almost impossible to find it in our

hearts to stop their merry clatter. While they are so noisily joyous there may be lying in some room a child needing the utmost quiet, and all we can do is to draw the screen around it and keep it out of the sight but not the sound of its romping companions. Until the last two years we had a friend in Barrie who allowed us to send to her one child after another, but she has returned to her English home and no one has offered to fill her place. It is our intention this summer, God willing, to establish a temporary convalescent hospital on the Island opposite our city. This will not only be for those poor little mortals who have passed through their period of sickness with us and are on the road to recovery, but for the children of any who have not the opportunity of taking their ailing ones away for a change of air. The rent of the house will not be less than \$150 for the season. There will also be the expense of plain furniture cots and plenty of warm bed clothes. There on the clear smooth sand these little ones can play all day long in the sunshine and paddle their tiny feet in the beautiful lake. Think of children who have been in bed for eight years sitting by the wave-washed shores of the lake. The fresh air and constant outdoor life will prove a powerful health tonic and unimagined happiness to these stricken little ones. In this, as in all our other works we will observe the principle of asking none but God for the money needed and we will trust Him to move the hearts of His children to whom He has given much of this world's goods to supply all our wants."

## THE PRAYER ANSWERED.

On a quiet Sunday evening in the mid-winter of 1883 three citizens sat talking over current topics in the parlour of a Sherbourne street residence. The conversation turned into a review of the work of the city charities. A member of the party described a

visit to the Hospital for Sick Children. The remarkable success of this institution sustained entirely by the free-will offerings of the charitable was the theme of several minutes' talk. This led on to reference to the need for a home on the Island where the little ones from the mother hospital could be hurried on in the way to recovery by a month's sojourn amid the breezes that are always sweeping over old Ontario's expanse. The fact that at the annual meeting of the Hospital on the previous Friday, Hon. S. H. Blake had eloquently urged some of the wealthier friends to contribute funds enough to provide a plain, homely retreat on the Island, was mentioned. The talk over the needs of the little tenants of the Hospital was continued until one of the trio quietly resolved to secure a building in which the children could live during the hot months.

The next morning action followed on the decision and the Hospital diary thus records as the event of Monday, Feb. 5, the answer to an earnest prayer:—"A gentleman called to say he would give \$1,000 towards building a Convalescent Home on the Island, if the city would grant the land. We had only thought of renting a house for a home and taking over a few children at a time. This is another proof of God's willingness 'to give abundantly above all that we can ask or think.'"

Work on the building was not far advanced when the ladies interested realized that the original donation of \$1,000 was not sufficient to complete and furnish the Home. Rev. Dr. Withrow cheerfully put the claims of the Hospital before thousands of Canadian children through the columns of the Methodist Sunday School journals. This effort brought in many small offerings from boys and girls who were interested in the stories of the little sufferers. The contributions from new supporters were gratefully acknowledged, but the following entry from "Our Diary" for May 16th shows how large a sum was needed to ensure the prompt completion of the building:—

"\$1,000 required by the 1st July for the 'Island Home.' We prayed earnestly that our Heavenly Father would send us this amount, as the house is being built, and we have but little more than \$1,000 on hand."

*"I have called upon Thee, for Thou wilt hear me, O God: incline Thine ear unto me, and hear my speech."*—Ps. xvii. 6.

The work of building went on, but the deficit in the funds was not made good, and a fuller realization of what the Hospital

was doing to alleviate the pains of suffering children prompted the donor of the first \$1,000 to relieve the financial anxiety of the ladies. The entry in "Our Diary" for June 8th reads:—"We thank God that the same gentleman who gave us the \$1,000 for the 'Island Home' sent us word not to be anxious about the other \$1,000 needed as he would supply it himself."

*"Verily God hath heard me: He has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, which hath not turned away from my prayer, nor His mercy from me."*—Ps. xvi. 19, 20.

#### THE BUILDING OF THE HOME

At the outset the idea was to either rent or buy a building for the Home. The old club house on the centre of the Island, near the Yacht Club moorings, was looked over. But the location did not suit and the house had not space for the cots of the little ones. Other buildings were inspected but none approached the ideal of a Convalescent Home. The failure to find a "ready-made" building brought about a consultation between the donor and the ladies controlling the hospital. The talk resulted in a decision to have plans prepared for a Home to be erected on a site that the Property Committee promised to grant free of expense. A plot of ground of five acres near where the street that straggles south from the ferry landing at Ranlan's takes an easterly curve to escape a terminus in Lake Ontario, was chosen. The lighthouse and fog bell station break in on the sandy plain that surrounds the site. On all sides there is romping space for hundreds of children, and it was the scope for freedom that the little ones could enjoy that commended this location over the disadvantage of nearness to the occasionally tolling fog bell. The City Council readily granted a lease of the property as the conveyance states, "So that a Convalescent Home for Sick Children could be erected thereon in connection with the "Hospital for Sick Children."

After the transfer of the site had been completed the preparation of a plan for the building engaged attention. Mr. Mark Hall, the architect, kindly volunteered his valuable services, and specifications for a structure with a centre elevation and one wing, were soon the basis of several tenders. Contracts for the woodwork were awarded and Mr. John J. Withrow generously consented to supervise the work of erection on behalf of the donor.

Before the late March gales had freed the bay the material for the Home had been hauled over the ice to the site. A warm day





SCENES AND FACES AT THE LAKESIDE.

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in early April saw a large force of workmen on the ground. The foundation timbers were quickly jointed, and the framework of the Home commenced to rise. The usefulness of the work animated even the humblest wielder of a tool. One of them—a plain, rough man—remarked earnestly that if ever in his life he turned a hand in a good cause it was in the building of this retreat for the sick ones. By the end of May the carpenter work was verging on completion. In the third week in June the woodworkers abandoned the Home to the painters and glaziers. The interior was finished in clear, unvarnished pine, but the outside walls, main roof and verandahs were brightly toned by coats of cherey glowing colour. The last artizan quit the building on July 3. Next day the furniture was ferried over from the city, and willing hands speedily worked the fittings into home-like array. This task over and the "Lakeside Home for Little Children," as the building had been named by the donor, was ready to shelter the young invalids who were sweltering in the July heat at their sultry quarters in the old hospital.

#### THE CONDITIONS OF THE GIFT.

The acceptance of the first donation of \$1,000 for the Lakeside Home, by the ladies engaged in the work of the hospital, involved the observance of four conditions governing the gift. These were (1) that admission to the Hospital for Sick Children on Elizabeth street, as well as the Convalescent Home on the Island, should be forever open to the children of Free and Accepted Masons belonging to the Grand Lodge of Canada; (2) that the name of the donor should not be made public; (3) that the donation should be known as a gift from a Master Mason; (4) that the city corporation should grant a site for the building on the Island.

The donor's desire to keep the source of the contributions a secret from the general public was not permanently regarded. His identity passed beyond the limited circle directly interested in the work, and one of the morning papers of the city first publicly linked the "gift of a Master Mason," with the name of Mr. J. Ross Robertson, proprietor of the *Toronto Evening Telegram*, and a member of King Solomon Lodge, No. 22, A. F. & A. M., Grand Registry of Canada. The association of Mr. Robertson's name with the Lakeside Home proved to be a practical financial help in the work. His wide acquaintance among the leading Masons of the province, gained in years of membership in the Grand Lodge, gave scores of Canadian Craftsmen a direct,

almost personal, interest in the success of the Home to which their friend had contributed. This interest did not spend itself in fruitless sympathy, but liberal gifts to the institution from Masons from all over the country show what the hospital has gained by the failure to observe the conditions in their integrity.

With the final contribution to the building fund the following note was addressed to Mrs. S. F. McMaster, President of the Hospital for Sick Children:—

"DEAR MADAM,—I beg to enclose my cheque for the balance of my donation, two thousand dollars, for the erection of a building on the Island for convalescent children of the Hospital for Sick Children of Toronto: the building to be called 'The Lakeside Home for Little Children.' The conditions attached to the gift are that the sick children of Freemasons, on being properly recommended by any one of the following, Messrs. Daniel Spry, of Barrie, J. A. Henderson, of Kingston, George Birrell, of London, J. J. Mason, of Hamilton, J. G. Burns, of Toronto, David McLellan, of Hamilton, and W. J. Hambly, of Toronto, shall be admitted to the Lakeside Home on the Island, or the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, free of charge. Of course it is understood that the rules laid down for the admittance of children must be conformed with.

"Yours truly,

"J. ROSS ROBERTSON."

When the building was ready for occupation Mrs. McMaster forwarded the following summary of the conditions of the gift and names of the gentlemen who possessed the right of presentation to the Lakeside to the Grand Master:—

"TORONTO, June 25th, 1883.

"*Daniel Spry, Esq., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M., Barrie, Ont.:*

"DEAR SIR.—As you are probably aware, Mr. J. R. R. has, at a cost of \$2,000, erected a building on the Island as a Convalescent Home for the little ones in the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto. It is called the 'Lakeside Home for Little Children.' One of the conditions upon which the grant has been made is that the door of this institution, as well as that of the 'Hospital for Sick Children' in Toronto, shall always be open to the children of the Masonic fraternity. It becomes my pleasing duty to convey a notification to this effect to you as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, supplemented with a request that presentation for admission must be accompanied by the recommendation of at least one of the following members of the Craft: Messrs. Daniel Spry, of Barrie, John J. Mason and David McLellan, of Hamilton, James A. Henderson, of Kingston, George Birrell, of London, and Joshua G. Burns and William J. Hambly, of Toronto. Will you be good enough to formally convey to me your acquiescence in this proposal which I am sure will meet with your full approbation as well as that of the Craft generally? I am sure that you, as the chief officer of the Craft, will fully appreciate the generous donation, and hope, with us, that it will be the means of light-

ening the burden of many a little one upon whom the hand of sickness has been laid.

"Yours truly,

"L. McMASTER.

The next day brought the following courteous acknowledgment of the notice from the Grand Master on behalf of the Craft :—

"BARRIE, 4th July.

"DEAR MADAM.—I am in receipt of your letter of the 25th ult., informing me of the generous donation of \$2,000 made by Mr. J. R. R. toward the erection of a building as a Convalescent Home in connection with the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto; and stating that one of the conditions upon which the grant has been made is that children of members of the Masonic Fraternity shall be admitted on the recommendation of at least one of the number of brethren named, including myself. I cheerfully accept the trust which my esteemed friend desires me to occupy, and, should occasion offer, will avail myself of the opportunities offered. As I am aware you are a daughter of a Freemason who was loved and respected for his generosity and kind regard for all who required his aid, I shall look with favour towards an institution with which the Craft is now to some extent identified, and shall have no hesitation in recommending children for admission to the Hospital Nursery, that among the generous ladies who are engaged in this good work, at least one has been taught the true principles of Freemasonry.

"Very faithfully yours,

"DANIEL SPRY, Grand Master.

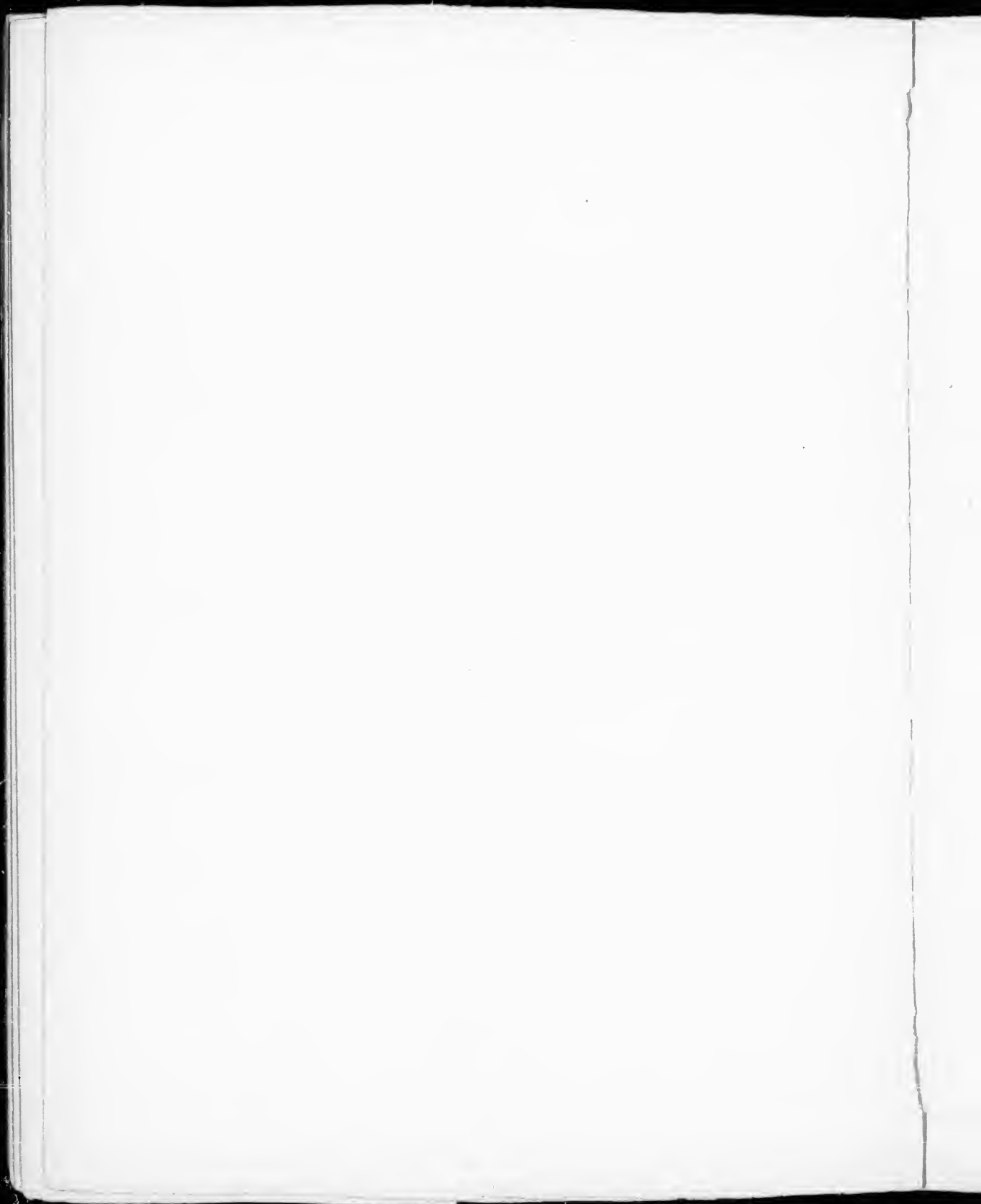
#### THE JOURNEY TO THE LAKESIDE.

The young tenants of the white cots in the mother hospital were open-eyed early on Thursday, July 5th, 1883. The morning sunshine that beamed in hotly through the shaded windows lighted rooms busy with the quiet bustle of friends hurrying forward arrangements for the fitting to the lake shore. Peeping out from the cots were the sickly faces of little ones worn by pain and weary with the sultry weeks spent in close city quarters. Longingly they had awaited the day set for the voyage into the—to these weak children—unknown region of smokeless sunlight and wave-washed shore. Close to the windows opening on Elizabeth street the strongest of the young lodgers sat. They were dressed for the journey, and trolled out their joy in snatches from the quaint hymns of childhood while they watched for the approach of the shiplike pleasure vans that were to carry them to the ferry. The rumble of every wheel on the dusty roadway started a piping hurrah among the little sentinels. As the two ponderous vans halted before the door the lusty shout of the watchers was echoed by the feebler voices of the little pallid boys and girls stretched in helpless suffering on their cots. The appearance of the Queen's Own Ambulance

Corps, under Sergeant M. Minn, was welcomed by the young travellers. One by one the volunteers gently carried the children to couches on the quilt-covered straw in the bottom of the vans. When all were either resting on the straw or held in the arms of nurses or volunteers, the order for departure was given. The big waggons rolled softly off for York street wharf, where the Island ferry Luella was waiting for the cruise to the lake side. As the vans wheeled out of view the voices of the youngsters rung out a cheery farewell to the squat, homely, old hospital building, that, surrounded by a setting of stuffy cottages, stood baking in the July sunshine. Then the eyes of the little pilgrims turned away to view the novel sketches of life that the journey to the wharf revealed. The trip through the streets was the opening of a joyous vision of healthy happy life to these young prisoners of disease. After months of pent up residence inside the four walls of a hospital room one glimpse of the joyous bustle of the streets was enough to bring a shade of the old glow back to the palest cheek. As the vans rumbled over the blocks on the Esplanade a sight of the rushing locomotives brought out a chorus of "Ohs" that was renewed as the caravan stopped beside the puffing Luella. From the vans the ambulance men carried the young voyageurs to mattresses on the deck of the ferry. A look at the patient, pain-worn little faces and shrunken forms touched the roughest of the dock loungers who stood by. The eyes of strong men were dimmed with the dew of kindly sympathy as they watched the children smile through their suffering while the steamer backed out from the landing. The voyage across the bay was a new joy to the little ones. As the Luella was headed for the western gap their eyes roamed over the prospect of city, lake and island. The tall chimnies the Luella was leaving astern, the skiffs darting over the bay, the white sailed yachts and the squat, high-decked propellers were all discoveries. Their shrill little voices were sounding out the tidings of these glad some sights as the Luella rounded for the private wharf near the lakeside. All eyes were then waiting for a first sight of the long-expected Island Home. As Mrs. McMaster pointed out the building beside the light-house the children shouted out their gladness. Soon the Luella steamed into the dock. Again the members of the Ambulance Corps did their kindly office. Gently the travellers were carried over the wide verandahs into the bright dining room of the Home. Here some of the Island residents had prepared



SCENES AND FACES AT THE LAKESIDE.



lunch for the little ones. All joined with a heartiness that indicated the first refreshing result of the lake breezes. After lunch the cots of the weakest of the inmates were wheeled out on the upper verandah. Lying here their little faces lighted up as they watched their stronger comrades revel in the sand before the Home. The change from the heated air and shaded sunshine of the upper rooms in the mother hospital to the sunny freedom of the lake shore gladdened all the children. Those who were strong enough romped joyously until the evening hour and the gaze of the weaker sufferers followed the sport from the cots above. As the sun was sinking behind the fringe of forest on the west shore of the lake the voices of the little ones joined in the grateful measure of "Glory to Thee, My God This Night." A little while later and sleep had stilled the pains of the inmates. The day that made the retreat in fact as in name, "The Lakeside Home for Little Children," was over.

#### THANKSGIVING SERVICES AT LAKESIDE.

The children had settled down to the enjoyment of life in their summer quarters. Long days spent in the freedom of outdoor sunshine soon tinted the pallid cheeks of the little invalids with the ruddy tone of health. When the contusion of the moulting was over and all the inmates were thriving amid the new surroundings, the ladies of the Hospital fixed Friday, July 19th as the date for commemorating the completion of the Lakeside Home by a special service of thanksgiving. A city newspaper in its issue of July 20th thus describes this service:—

#### THE LAKESIDE HOME.

The commodious dining-room of the "Lakeside Home for Little Children" was filled with a large and interested audience yesterday afternoon, at the time announced for the opening of the thanksgiving services connected with the opening of the Home. Before the hour of commencing the exercises a large number of the visitors inspected the dormitories, and the completeness of all the interior arrangements of the Home elicited much favourable comment. The children in their cots were wheeled out on to the roomy verandah, where they lay drinking in the pure lake breeze and eagerly scanning the countenances of all the new arrivals to discover old acquaintances. The little ones have improved wonderfully during the short sojourn in their new home, and the favourable change in their appearance effected by the bracing air and temperate atmosphere of their new quarters was the subject of general approval.

Mr W. H. Howland presided at the ser-

vices in the dining room, and after singing and prayer by the Rev. Mr. Brookman, he briefly related the history of the Home from its inception to the present time. He said that the institution was a work of faith, and was sustained by nothing but simple reliance on the Lord for everything needed. The "Lakeside Home" was the result of faith in prayer. One of the lady managers had been impressed with the need of it for a year previous to the annual meeting of 1883. At this meeting it was simply stated that it was desirable to have the Home. The gentleman who gave the money necessary to build the Home gave it in the honest, Scriptural way. He wished to act up to the Biblical instruction, and it was against his wishes that his name was made public. In conclusion, Mr. Howland spoke at length on the benefits which the children were deriving from their new home. Their rosy cheeks and bright eyes were in marked contrast to their pale faces a few weeks ago, and spoke volumes for the health-giving properties of their new location.

After prayer by the Rev. P. McF. McLeod, Mr. Clarke Gamble was called on and delivered a short address, in which he said that the change that had come over the children during their short residence on the Island was simply marvellous, and when it was remembered from what a small beginning this work sprang the faith of all present should be greatly increased.

Dr. Castle, in response to the chairman's call, said that they were forbidden by the principles on which the institution was founded, to extol any human instrumentality. The motto of these connected with the work was "not unto us, but unto Thy Great Name be all the glory." He had always attended the anniversaries of the Children's Hospital, and had always gone to them with great pleasure, because in every instance he had found much to strengthen him and to encourage spiritually, and to enable him to him feel that the Unseen Being was a present and a living being. At the last annual meeting in February it was first stated that this Home had been asked for. He knew that it was in the heart of one good lady throughout the whole previous year to plead with God that an institution like this should be established in connection with the Children's Hospital. But it was not until the annual meeting in February last that it was publicly hinted that it was desirable to have a building where the convalescent children from the Hospital could spend the summer. Many of the friends of the Hospital thought that such a building would come in course of time.

When, therefore, before a week had passed it was learned that the necessary amount had been promised for its erection they were almost startled. But no one knew at the time that "He who worketh in secret" was moving the heart of one of their fellow citizens. It was a good thing that he had the means to do it, and never did he spend two thousand dollars that will give him so much pleasure—a pleasure that will last all through his sojourn on earth, and when he came to die he would have the satisfaction of knowing that his good deed was remembered by Him who has said that "inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these little ones ye did it unto Me." After complimenting the ladies in charge of the Home, Dr. Castle took his seat. The chairman then called on Mr. J. Ross Robertson, who said that the building spoke for itself, and it was almost unnecessary for him to say one word more in connection with what he had been able to do in the establishment of a Convalescent Home, where, during the summer months, helpless, innocent and inoffensive little ones of the city could get that nourishment and live in an atmosphere that would tend to promote their physical welfare. He was very grateful for what he had been able, through Providence, and to a limited extent, to do for the children, and trusted that what he in a small way had been able to commence, would in the time to come be greatly improved upon, so that the Home would extend, and not only be a benefit to the little ones in the mother hospital in Toronto, but also to the children in similar institutions, who would be benefitted by a change of scene and air. He felt very thankful to the citizens of Toronto through whose good-will it was that he had been able to erect the Home, and trusted that in a few years he would be able to do more to make the institution complete. All present were aware that one of the conditions on which the Home was given was that the children of Freemasons should always be admitted on the presentation of certain prominent members of the Order. Charity was one of the cardinal principles of Freemasonry, and after they had relieved the distresses of the brethren—for rightly the first claim comes within the craft, as one's own family would be provided for before those who had no claim—they could alleviate the misfortunes of others. But Masonry stimulates to good works, and what cause could be better aided outside the Craft than that of helping the little ones who cannot help themselves. He had originally intended to carry out the Scripture injunction, to "not let the right hand know

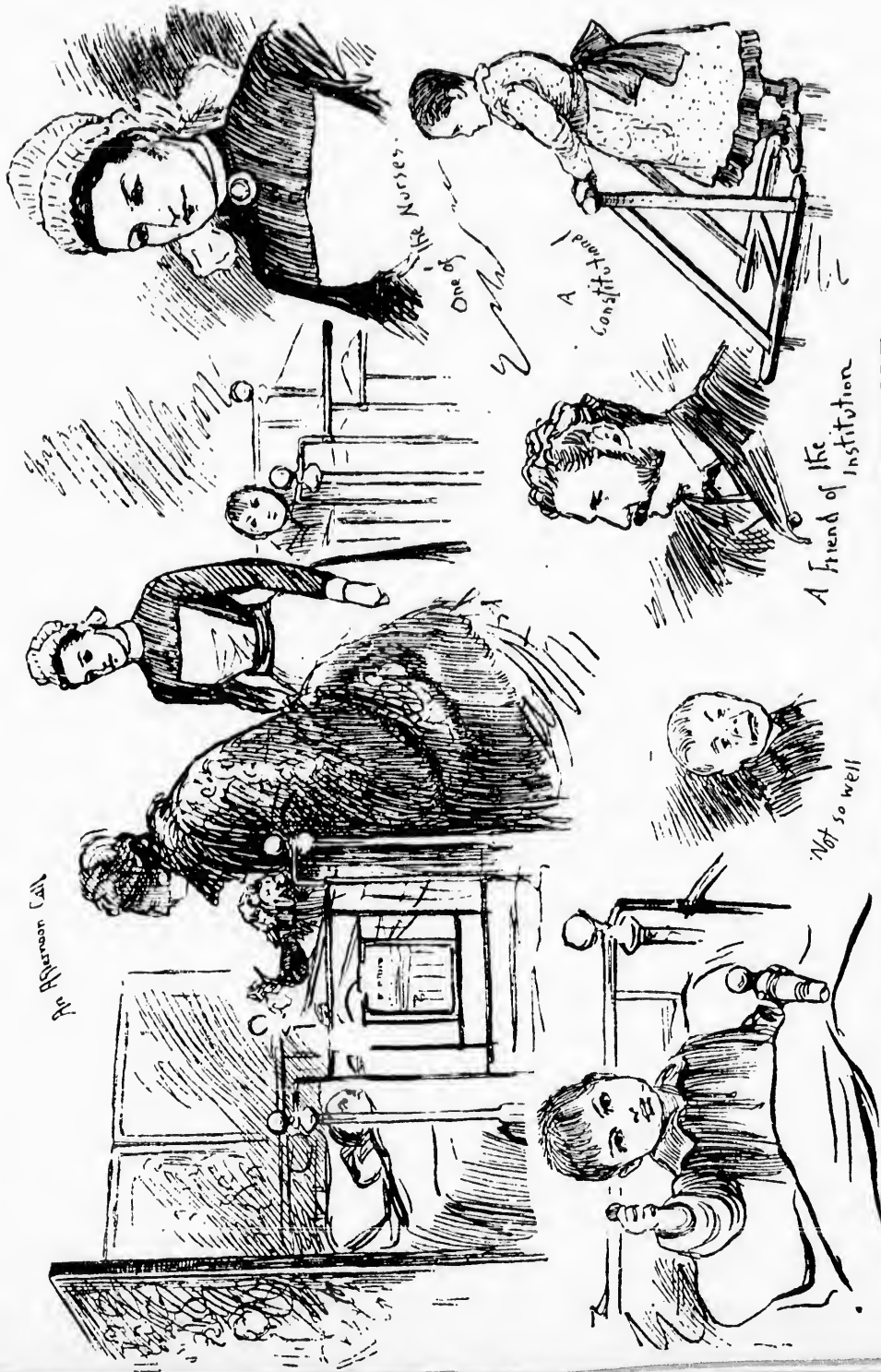
what the left hand doeth," but unfortunately in one way, and fortunately in another, he had not been allowed to carry out his intention. Unfortunately, because personally he would have preferred that it should never be known who gave the funds to erect the building. On the other hand, it was fortunate that it was known that he had given the building, the sympathy of many of his friends in the city and throughout the province being enlisted on behalf of the Hospital for Sick Children. At the meeting of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Canada at Ottawa last week, the members assembled expressed much satisfaction on learning that one of their number had taken an active interest in the work of the Hospital, and he was hopeful that the institution would not only gain the sympathy of the Craft, but also their support. He hoped that in a year or two the Home would be enlarged by the addition of another wing, and the grounds would be beautified so that all the surroundings of the children might be of a bright and cheerful character. For his own part he was amply repaid for the little he had done by the sight of the little ones as they lay in their cots on the verandah breathing the pure air and basking in the bright sunshine that would go a long way towards hastening their physical recovery. After thanking the audience for their attention, Mr. Robertson took his seat.

This concluded the exercises, and after the Rev. Mr. McLeod had pronounced the benediction, the audience dispersed.

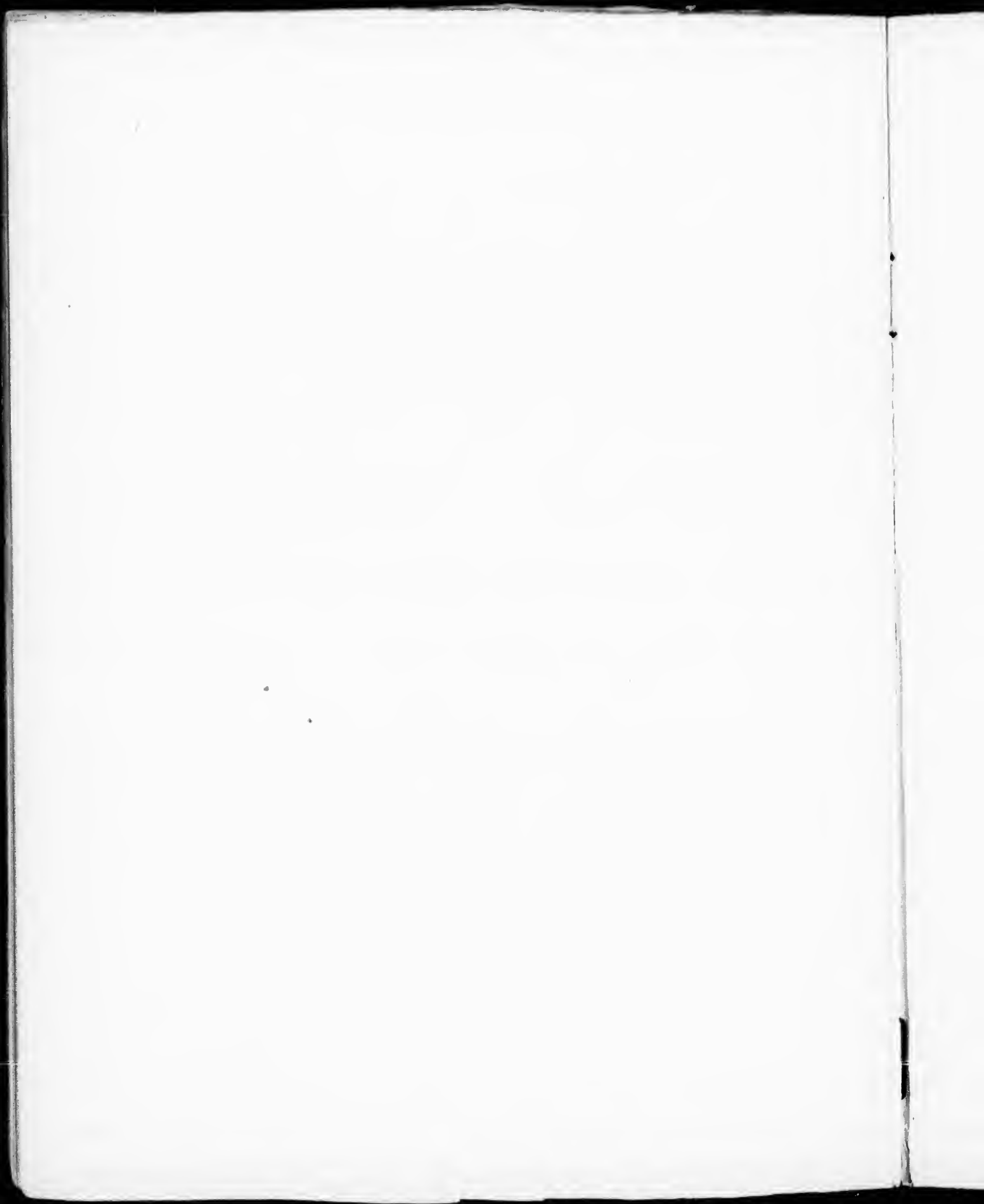
#### THE FIRST SUMMER AT LAKESIDE.

After the excitement of the opening was past, the young convalescents settled into the routine of enjoying the free open life on the lake shore. Before the waves had long been glowing under the first rays of the early sunshine the plaintive voices from the Home would blend in the notes of the morning hymn. After breakfast the sandy flats around were dotted with little bent forms of boys and girls, forgetting their pains in the glory of digging in the sand or gathering the simple Island flowers to cheer their helpless companions in the cots. But this extract from Mrs. McMaster's annual report as secretary describes, better than an outsider can, the joys of that first summer at the Lakeside:—The nurses kept the children out of doors as much as possible, never allowing them to be alone a moment; to take out in a boat any who could go, and to wheel those who could not, in the carriages brought over for the purpose, either up the sidewalk, or to the water's edge, to see the waves roll in; gathering wild flowers, shells and luckstones, for and





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with them; in short, to do everything to make their stay in the Lakeside Home as happy as possible; ever turning their minds to the Giver of all good, who sent all this for their happiness and use.

When those who could walk were taken out the first day, and told that God had planted all these flowers (chiefly clover blossom, marguerites and sand vines) for them, that they might gather all they chose, little aprons and hands were very soon full, and the lady who was with them, was decorated with blossoms as lovely as any hot-house flowers to these poor little ones, who at best only saw cut flowers; then, quick as thought, leave was begged to carry off their treasures, some to Mabel, Tommy, Janie and others, who could not get about; and the delight of those flower bedecked, bed-ridden little patients, can only be imagined, not described.

The pulling of clover blossoms was by general consent excluded from their list of flowers to be gathered, when they understood in these God kept the honey for the "Bess' dinner." Digging in the sand was also a surprise, for they found on trial that it would not dirty them, and that if they dug at all deep, water was always there; so new wells were dug for the Secretary as she went up each day to morning prayers with the little ones, and their attendants. A verse of Scripture was also prepared for her every morning, and thus during the season several chapters of God's Word were safely stored in their little minds for future use.

During the summer, frequent storms occurred making them afraid; so we taught them Psalm xciii. 4. "The Lord on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, yea than the mighty waves of the sea," and Psalm lxxxix. 9, "Thou rulest the raging of the sea; when the waves thereof arise thou stillest them:" and because they could not understand why the angry curling waves did not run right up and cover the whole Island, we taught them Jeremiah v. 22, "Fear ye not Me, saith the Lord, will ye not tremble at my Presence which have placed the sand for a bound for the sea, by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it; and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?" One day, when the waves were very high making such a noise as they broke on the shore that the approaching footsteps could not be heard, we found two little girls standing close to them, shouting with quite a defiant voice:—"Though they toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar yet can they not pass over it," because "the Lord

on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, yea than the mighty waves of the sea!" Lessons, learned under such circumstances, will never be forgotten.

The shorter days of middle September found the children still at the Lakeside. An invitation to the institutions for juveniles to send any of their ailing inmates to the Island brought twelve worn little strangers to the Home. The diary for Sept. 25 h records:—"The first application for the admission of the child of a Mason was received to-day at the Lakeside Home. We are sorry he did not come earlier in the season, when the days were warmer and longer."

The coming of cloudy days and chilly nights warned the inmates that the time for flitting cityward was near. The last days of September ended a season during which forty-nine little children of affliction had been weaned back to health by longer or shorter sojourns at the Home. On a bright autumn morning a ferry steamed into the landing on the west shore. This time the work of the ambulance men detailed to carry the children from their cots was lighter. Little ones who had been borne from point to point on the trip to the Home in July trudged merrily along to the steamer. All were soon on board, and the little ones cheered out a farewell to the kindly shelter of the Lakeside. The report thus describes the leave-taking:—"Many of the children who had been carried up by the Ambulance Corps were able themselves to walk to the ferry. The little folks were all very sorry to leave us, and as the boat steamed out bearing them home handkerchiefs and now unnecessary crutches were waved back at us in farewell as we watched them away from the wharf."

#### A LOOK AT THE LAKESIDE HOME.

The engraving shows the Lakeside Home as it was in the summer of 1883. Then it included a central elevation and a south wing. In the plans there was an effort to unite the useful and ornamental. The result is a structure that strikes the passer-by with its attractive outline and meets all the requirements of convenience and comfort. It is constructed of wood throughout. A broad stairway connects two floors with a united area of 3,600 square feet. On the ground floor there are a large dining room, a pantry, kitchen, board room and two large apartments for the use of the Matron. On the second floor there is a large hall, on either side of which is a large ward for the use of the boys and girls respectively. Opening from these wards is a smaller room.

which is occupied by children in advanced stages of disease. At the east end of the hall is a commodious bath room fitted up with the most improved appliances. A broad and shady verandah runs round the west and south sides of the building. This is two stories in height, and is reached by wide doors which open from the boys' ward. Here the little invalids are placed during portions of each fine day, and on the hottest day they receive the full benefit of the cool breezes which blow in from the broad expanse of Lake Ontario. A laundry and washhouse has been erected at the east end of the building and an ample supply of pure water is brought from the lake by means of a windmill on the lake shore.

This sketch, facing the title page, describes the Home as it was until the summer of 1885. But the help to renew health that short sojourns at the Lakeside during the hot summer months of 1883-84 proved to so many poor children made the donor of the original building anxious to enlarge the Home's circle of usefulness. He aimed at extending the advantages of a few weeks' residence at the Lakeside to weakly children from such institutions as the Boys', Girls', Orphans' and Infants' Homes. Early in 1885 he proposed to add a duplicate of the south wing to the north end of the building on two conditions:—(1) That The Lakeside Home should be the charge of a trust composed of Mayor Howland, Messrs. John J. Withrow, A. S. Irving, Daniel Spry and the donor; (2) that children from other city charities should be admitted to The Lakeside Home subject to the control of the Management of the Hospital for Sick Children. These conditions met with the hearty approbation of the trustees of the mother hospital and contracts for the building of the annex were let in February, 1885. The work was quickly completed, and on July 15th the entire building was occupied. The remodelled structure is thus described by a writer in a local newspaper who spent "An Hour at The Lakeside Home."

On the plank route of travel, but away beyond the usual limit of the Island-stroller's tramp, the brown walls, dark verandahs and ruddy-tinted roof of The Lakeside Home for Little Children break the bareness of the sandy plain that stretches south from the end of the straggling row of summer cottages almost to the water's edge. The windmill on the shore shades the west frontage line marked by the sidewalk that runs from Hanlan's. The picket fenced fog-bell station and the little cluster of stunted willows around the white-

washed lighthouse buildings hem in the enclosure south of the Home. The visitor who on a sunny afternoon turns off the plank road on to the footway leading up to the main door finds the strongest of the residents sporting in the shady spots on the sandy front. Their voices have a sturdy ring, and they go into their play with all the energy of health. A month's experience of the lake breezes has advanced these children so far on the road to health that a glance recognizes in the browned faces in the sand but faint likeness to the little invalids landed at the Home a few weeks since. When the entrance steps are cleared the front door opens into a small, neatly furnished reception room. From here the lower flat of the wing just added to the Home is reached. Around the back of this room twelve iron cots for the convalescent girls are placed. Close to the wide windows fronting on the western verandah a row of eighteen cradles for the little guests from the Infants' Home are ranged. The cradles are vacant, and outside on the shady verandah the liveliest of their tenants are creeping among heaps of way-worn toys and crowing out their childish glee. The weaker infants sit quietly in their little chairs. At times their eyes turn wearily from the bright lake view to rest with passing interest on the antic of the cheery toddlers around. But the want of a mother's care is written in the pinched lines of these worn little faces. It is on the weary eyes, stunted limbs and thin hands of these unknown babies that the gaze of the ladies at the Home rests with a look that speaks the consciousness that the close of the sojourn at the Lakeside will bring these little wayfarers very near the end of their life's journey. A pine partition divides the lower half of the new building from the dining-room. The apartment is fitted with home-like furniture of the summer residence type, and is equipped with a heating stove, so that when the day is bleak enough to make artificial warmth desirable all the children can be gathered in. In the rear the dining-room opens on a kitchen furnished with massive range and shiny rows of cooking utensils. At the side a door swings into the stairway hall. A nozzle and a coil of fire hose ornament the side wall near the back entrance. A tank just under the roof, fed by the windmill pump, gives a good fire pressure, and regular practice always keeps the apparatus ready for service. On the left of the stairway the door leading to the lower flat of the old wing opens. This gives the same floor room as the dormitory on the other side, but is



out for a stroll

His

Waiting for a meal

Morning

Trying his eyes

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divided off into sleeping quarters for the nurses who wait on the children. An easy stairway reaches up to the second floor. To the left of the landing the visitor passes into the girl patients' ward, a room that includes the whole upper part of the new wing. Like the rest of the building, this room is plainly furnished. There is no effort at elaborate adornment. The cheery like pine walls are brightened with simple prints, illustrating scenes in the life of "Him who made the lame to walk and the blind to see." The day is sultry and the 46 cots which form a hollow square around the rooms at night are all wheeled out to the upper verandahs. In the heated term the children almost live on the double row of verandahs that nearly encircles the Home. The verandahs are roomy, well shaded, and fitted with awnings that on sunny days shut out the sun from the space between roof and railing. A view from the upper tier strikes the visitor with a fair idea of the advantages of the site selected for the Home. Looking west the eye darts over the gently heaving expanse of lake to the low green shores of the Humber, and then on over field and forest to the wooded heights that break into the sky line. Northward the glance skims along the row of Island retreats to the throngs strolling among the sickly trees at Hanlan's; over the bay dotted with puffing ferries to the grimy stretch of dock front; then up to where high chimneys shoot out their blackness in the sultry air, and on through a fringe of church spires, tall trees and flag poles to the ridge that blocks the view. Eastward the marsh runs into the compact array of Riverside buildings bounded by fields and clumps of bush that lead up to the bold headland of Seaboro'

Heights. The little watchers from their cots look out over the quiet lake at the steamers and white-sailed schooners plying, and south to where the faint shadow of frontier line shows on the horizon. On the verandahs children from all parts of the province, suffering from all varieties of physical ailments are resting. The convulsive motions of the newly-arrived patient seized with the St. Vitus dance, interest with all the charm of novelty a group of little invalids who are strong enough to walk. Children able only to enjoy the fresh breezes from their cots, follow with eager eyes the revels of their companions on the sand below. In the cots are little ones whose hopes of activity are barred by paralysis, spinal diseases and other incurable ailments. The cot of one child has to be wheeled where she can grasp a trapeze bar that swings from the roof. By resting her weight on this for hours at a time she aids in the work of straightening her back. Few moments in the lives of the little patients are free from pain. But they bravely endure all their sufferings. The most sorely tried among the sufferers can always summon a smile to greet the approach of the kindly patient nurses who are in charge of the Lakeside this summer. Pain does not seem to shake the patient fortitude of the young invalids. At times, wearied of play, their childish voices join in the sweet music of a familiar hymn. If the visitor hears the simple, quaint measure of "Tell me the old, old story," ringing out from the cots overhead as he leaves, he must carry away a sympathetic remembrance of the quiet endurance that brightens the pain-darkened lives of the little inmates of the Lakeside.

FINIS.

THE LAKESIDE HOME FOR LITTLE CHILDREN.

Designed by  
ALVIN W. COOPER  
GRIP CO. - ENGRS.

